

**STILL  
ONLY 35¢**

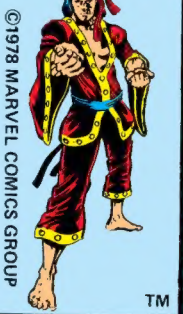
**MARVEL COMICS GROUP™**

**68**  
**SEPT 02449**



**THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI,**

# **MASTER OF KUNG FU™**



©1978 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

TM

TM

**SHANG-CHI--  
LOCKED IN  
A DEATH  
BATTLE WITH  
THE CAT!**



# **FINAL COMBATS!**



"Call me Shang-Chi, as my **father** did, when he raised me and molded my mind and my body in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. I learned many things from my father. Since then, I have learned that my father is **Dr. Fu Manchu**, the most insidiously evil man on earth...and that to **honor** him would bring nothing but **dishonor** to the spirit of my **name**.

**Stan Lee**  
PRESENTS: **MASTER OF KUNG FU!**™

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER







BUT... WHAT DOES SHANG HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH, CLIVE? SURELY KOGAR WILL NEVER AGREE.

MAYBE *NOT*, LEIKO, BUT LET'S JUST CROUCH DOWN IN OUR SECRET RINGSIDE SEATS AND *SEE...*



VERY WELL, SHANG-CHI. I **ACCEPT** YOUR UNORTHODOX APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT.

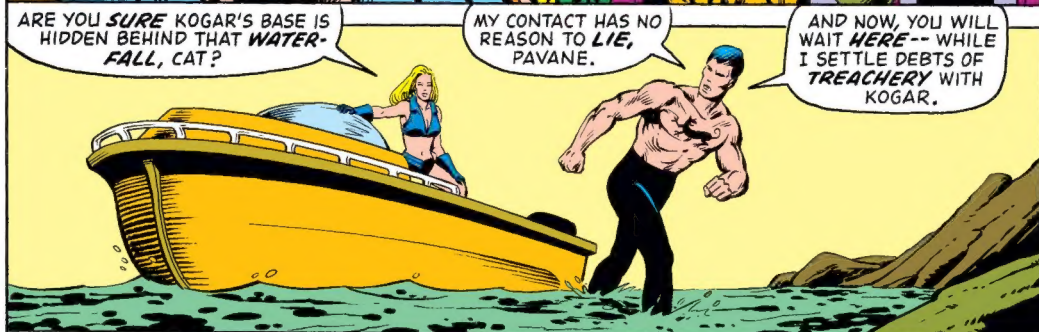
SKLAR, SHOW HIM TO HIS **NEW QUARTERS**.

YES, KOGAR.



WHEW! *THAT'S* A BLOODY LOAD OFF MY MIND. DON'T KNOW WHAT THE CHINAMAN'S *UP TO--* BUT I FIGURED KOGAR WOULD WANNA *GUT* HIM RIGHT HERE AN' *NOW*.

RIGHT THIS *WAY*, HEE HEE HEE.



ARE YOU *SURE* KOGAR'S BASE IS HIDDEN BEHIND THAT *WATER-FALL*, CAT?

MY CONTACT HAS NO REASON TO *LIE*, PAVANE.

AND NOW, YOU WILL WAIT *HERE--* WHILE I SETTLE DEBTS OF *TREACHERY* WITH KOGAR.

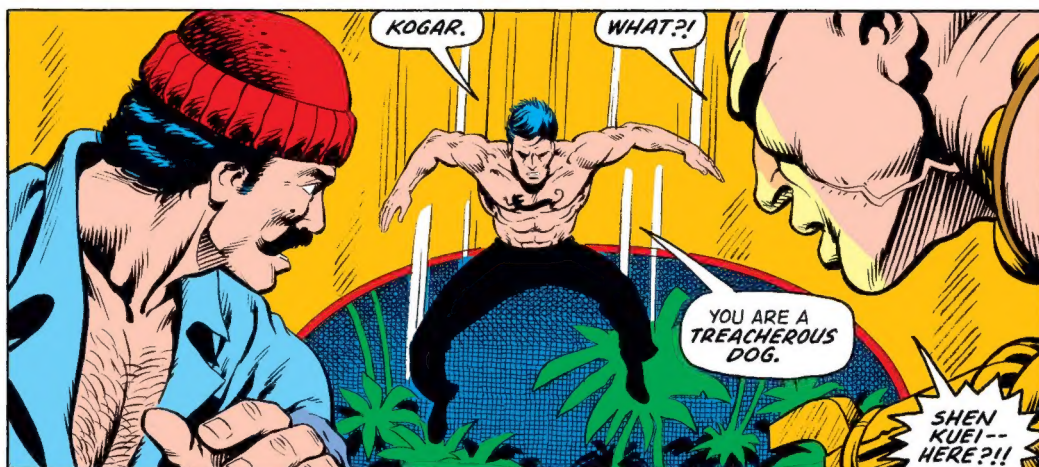


THE CHINAMAN'S A *GOOD MAN*, KOGAR-- GLAD YOU DECIDED TO *ACCEPT* HIM.

I'D WAGER YOU *ARE*, BLACK JACK BLUE--

-- BUT WOULD YOU BE *JUST* AS GLAD IF I TOLD YOU I *LIED* TO YOUR FRIEND?





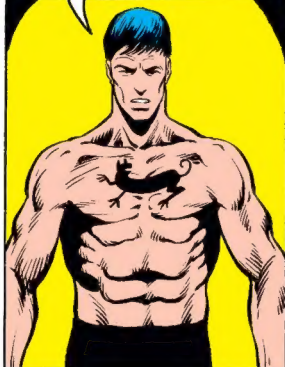


BUT OF *COURSE*, A MAN OF *CATS'* *SHADOWS* WOULD EASILY SLIP PAST MY *CLUMSY GUARDS*. I PRESUME YOU'VE COME TO LODGE A *PROTEST--*



--OVER THE OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN GOODS WE ONCE SOUGHT AS *PARTNERS?*

I HAVE COME *ALONE*, KOGAR. IF YOU HOLD *ANY* HONOR SACRED, YOU WILL AGREE TO SETTLE OUR CONFLICTING CLAIMS IN A *TRIAL BY COMBAT...* ME AGAINST *YOU*, OR YOUR *BEST MAN*.



THEN IT WAS *CAT* WHO DAMAGED THE POWER GENERATOR. WE SHALL *HUMOR* HIM, SKLAR, AND PERHAPS ELIMINATE *TWO NUISANCES* WITH A *SINGLE GAMBIT*.

GO GET OUR *NEW ALLY*.



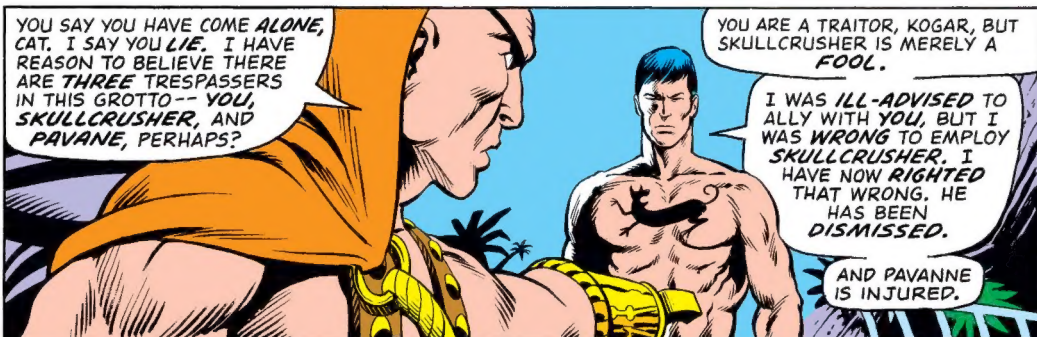
YES, KOGAR.

YOU SAY YOU HAVE COME *ALONE*, CAT. I SAY YOU *LIE*. I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THERE ARE *THREE* TRESPASSERS IN THIS GROTTO-- *YOU*, *SKULLCRUSHER*, AND *PAVANE*, PERHAPS?

YOU ARE A TRAITOR, KOGAR, BUT SKULLCRUSHER IS MERELY A *FOOL*.

I WAS *ILL-ADVISED* TO ALLY WITH *YOU*, BUT I WAS *WRONG* TO EMPLOY *SKULLCRUSHER*. I HAVE NOW *RIGHTED* THAT *WRONG*. HE HAS BEEN *DISMISSED*.

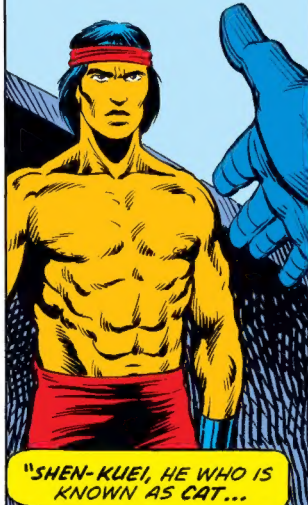
AND *PAVANE* IS INJURED.



VERY WELL, CAT, FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT, WE SHALL CONCEDE YOU *ARE* ALONE-- AND WE SHALL PIT YOU AGAINST MY *BEST MAN...*



...*SHANG-CHI*.



"*SHEN-KUEI*, HE WHO IS KNOWN AS *CAT*..."

"...THE ONLY MAN I HAVE EVER FACED IN COMBAT WHO WOULD HAVE *BEATEN* ME."



I BELIEVE YOU HAVE *MET?*

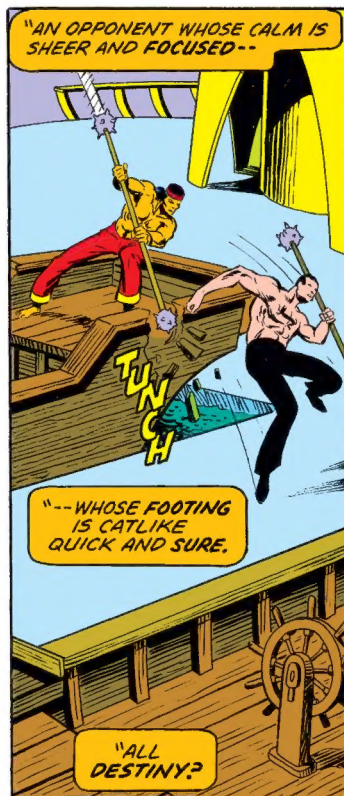
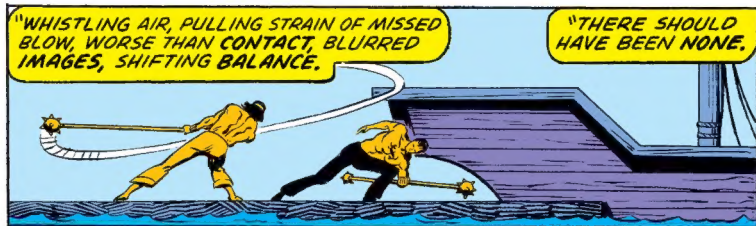
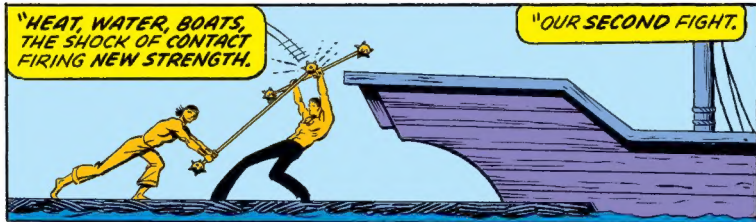
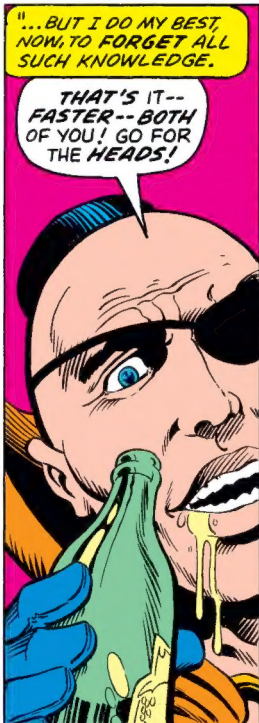




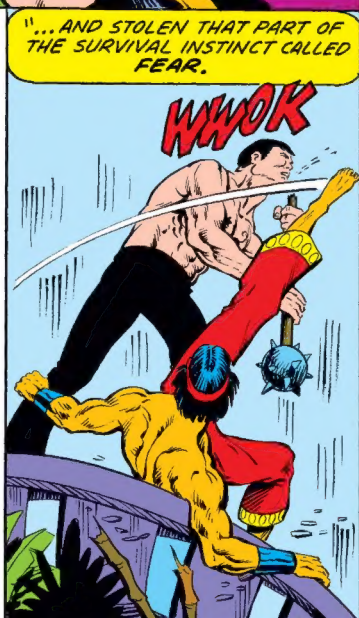
















WE ARE BOTH FOOLS, SHEN KUEI.

I AGREE.

AND ONLY ONE FOOL IN TWO CAN HOPE FOR A FUTURE IN WHICH TO PONDER HIS FOLLY.



"YES, HIS WORDS SPEAK ELOQUENTLY OF HIS LACK OF FEAR--



"--AND THE TRULY FEARLESS MAN ALWAYS MAKES A MISTAKE.

SO, BRITISHER, I HAD FORGOTTEN HOW MUCH YOU TESTED ME.



COME NOW, CAT-- YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT!

REMEMBER IT WAS SHANG-CHI WHO PUT THAT X-MARKED CRATE INTO YOUR BROTHER'S HANDS AND WATCHED AS IT EXPLODED!



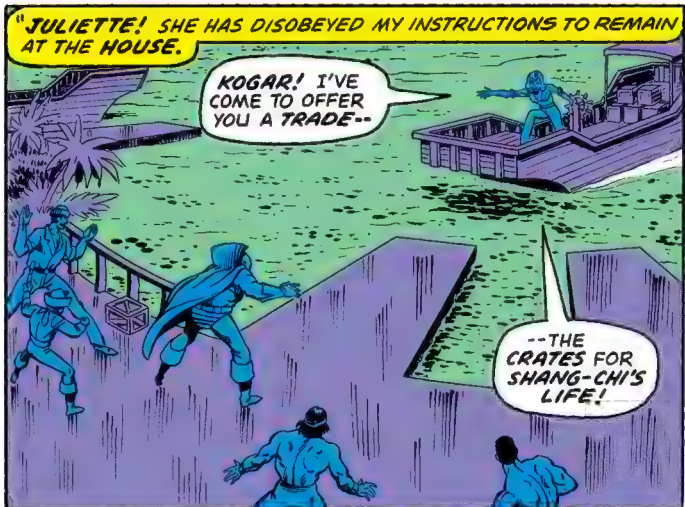
"SHEN KUEI HALTS. HIS HEAD TURNS SLOWLY, AND HIS EYES ARE TERRIBLE, AS SIGHT RETURNS TO HIS HEART...

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CRATE WAS MARKED IN SUCH A MANNER?

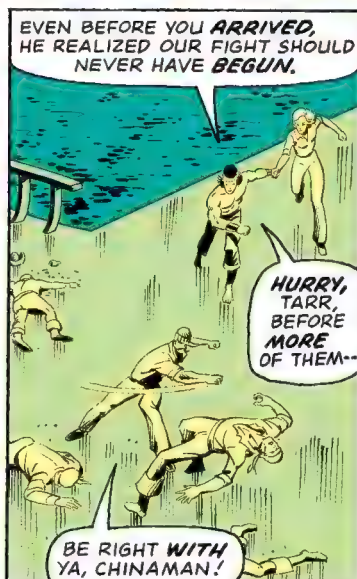
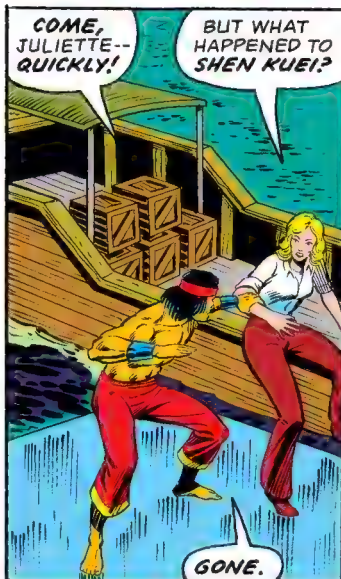
UNLESS... THE BRITISHER DID NOT KILL MY BROTHER... BECAUSE IT WAS REALLY YOU WHO--!

STOP!





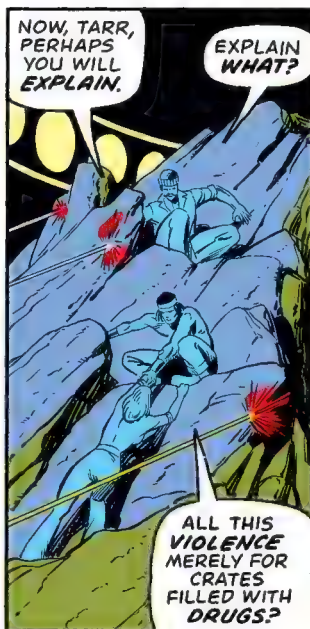








HEADS DOWN, YOU TWO--  
CUZ HERE COME THOSE  
"MORE OF 'EM"!



NOW, TARR,  
PERHAPS  
YOU WILL  
EXPLAIN.

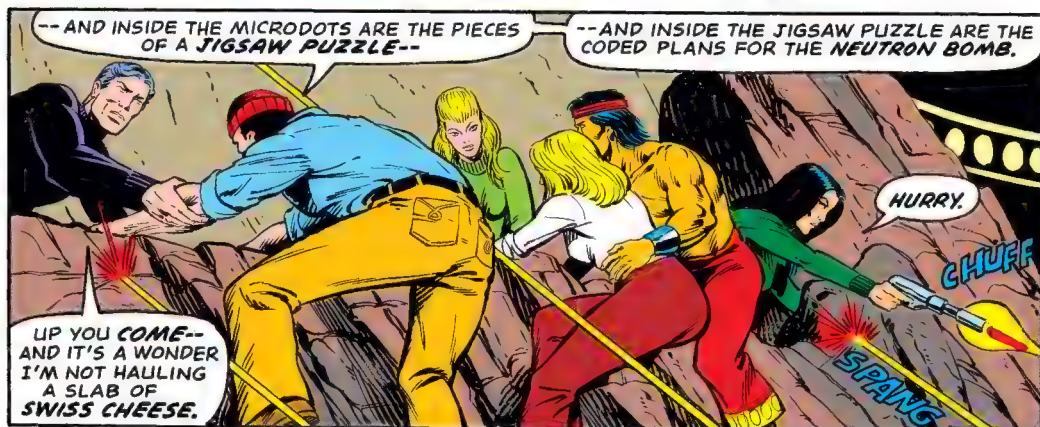
EXPLAIN  
WHAT?

ALL THIS  
VIOLENCE  
MERELY FOR  
CRATES  
FILLED WITH  
DRUGS?



MORE THAN DRUGS,  
CHINAMAN, MUCH MORE--  
LIKE THE RIDDLE OF  
CHINESE BOXES. INSIDE  
THOSE CRATES ARE  
HASHISH BRICKS,  
ALL RIGHT--

-- BUT INSIDE  
THE HASH  
BRICKS ARE  
MICRODOTS--

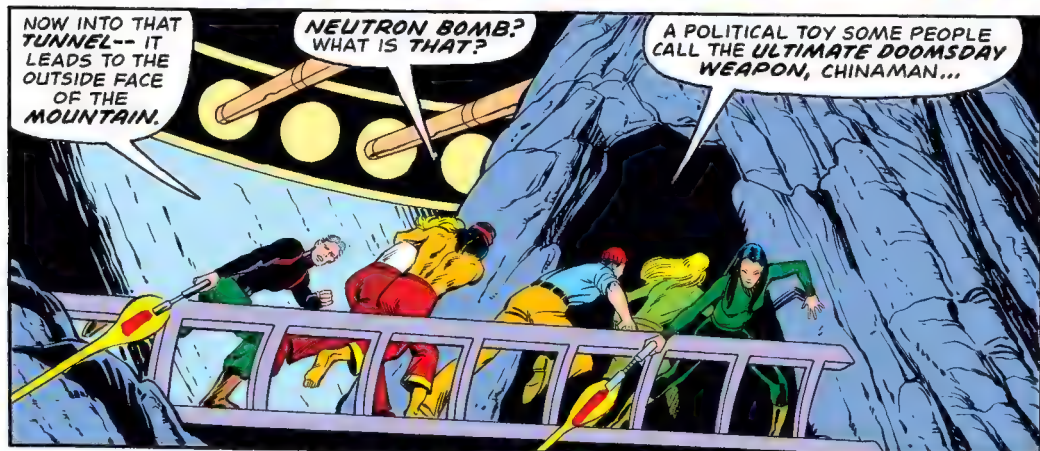


-- AND INSIDE THE MICRODOTS ARE THE PIECES  
OF A JIGSAW PUZZLE--

-- AND INSIDE THE JIGSAW PUZZLE ARE THE  
CODED PLANS FOR THE NEUTRON BOMB.

HURRY.

UP YOU COME--  
AND IT'S A WONDER  
I'M NOT HAULING  
A SLAB OF  
SWISS CHEESE.

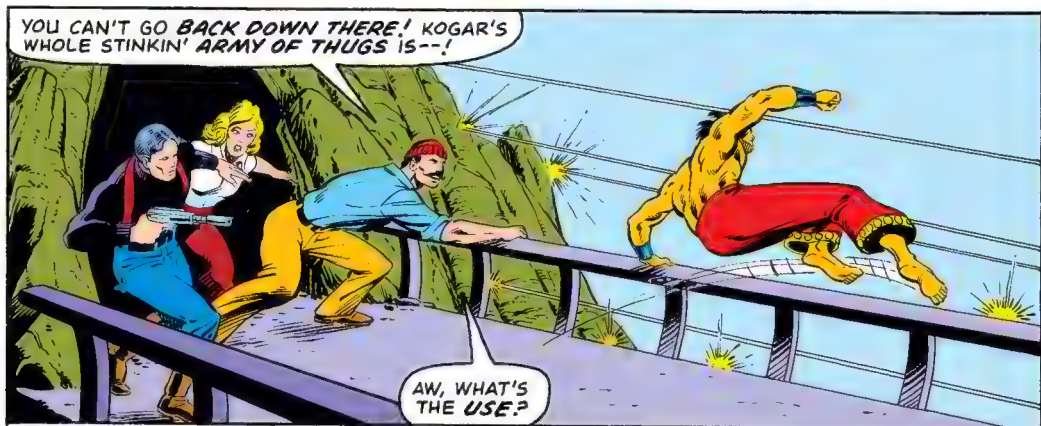


NOW INTO THAT  
TUNNEL-- IT  
LEADS TO THE  
OUTSIDE FACE  
OF THE  
MOUNTAIN.

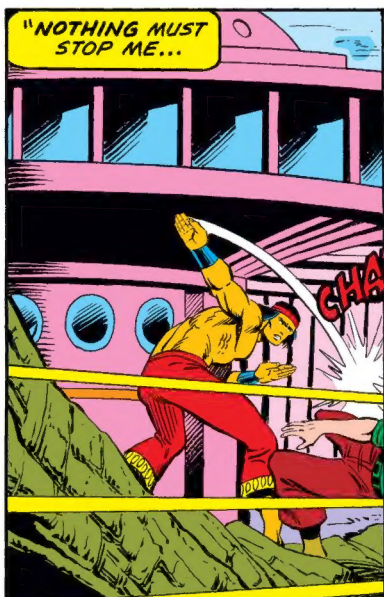
NEUTRON BOMB?  
WHAT IS THAT?

A POLITICAL TOY SOME PEOPLE  
CALL THE ULTIMATE DOOMSDAY  
WEAPON, CHINAMAN...

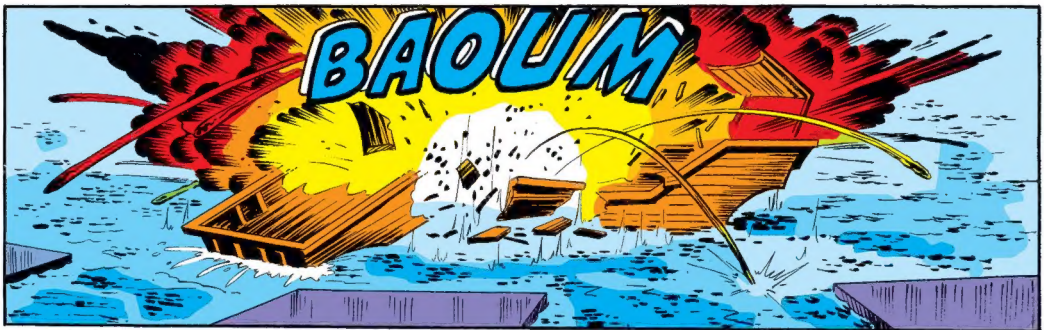
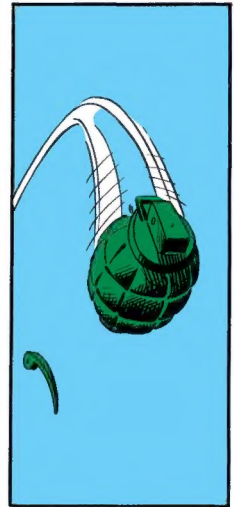
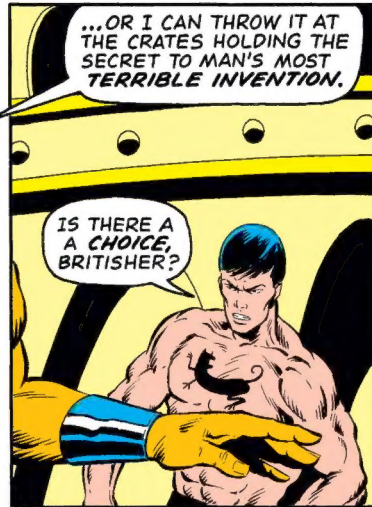




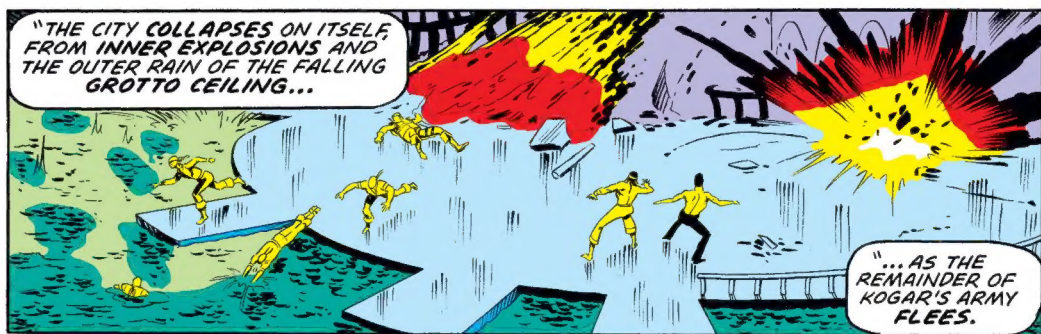
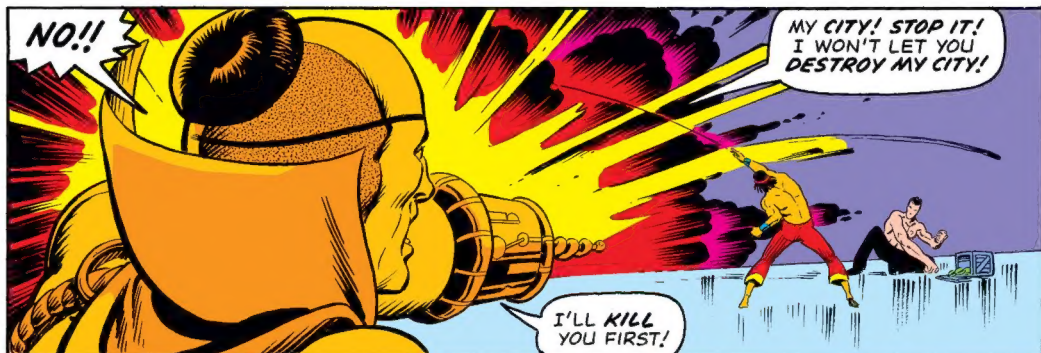












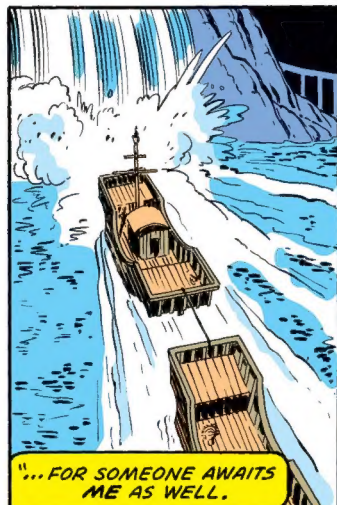




"YES, IT IS  
TIME TO  
LEAVE..."



GOOD WORK, CHINAMAN--  
YOU'VE GOT AS MANY  
CHARMED LIVES AS THAT  
BLOODY CAT HAS. WE'LL  
MEET YOU OUTSIDE!



"... FOR SOMEONE AWAITS  
ME AS WELL."



**EPILOGUE:**

WHY TWO BOATS,  
CHINAMAN?

IF YOU  
WILL WAIT  
FOR ME  
HERE...



... I MUST TAKE  
JULIETTE, FOR  
A TIME, TO HER  
HOUSE  
DOWNRIVER.



YEAH, WE'LL  
WAIT FOR YA,  
CHINAMAN...  
TILL  
MORNING.

"WHATEVER MY DECISION,  
AND WHATEVER JULIETTE'S  
DECISION..."



"... I WILL TREAT HER WELL."

DEDICATED TO MASTER STORYTELLER MILTON CANIFF.

**NEXT:  
STAIRWAY  
TO RAGE!**